

Message Text

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PAGE 01 COTONO 00671 161624Z

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ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 AID-05 L-03 EB-07 COME-00

CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 CU-02 DODE-00 PA-01 USIA-06

PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 NSC-05 /071 W

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R 161510Z APR 76

FM AMEMBASSY COTONOU

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8398

INFO AMEMBASSY ALGIERS

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE COTONOU 0671

EO 11652: NA

TAGS: ETRD, PFOR, DM, AL

SUBJ: BENIN FOREIGN MINISTER SIGNS AGREEMENTS WITH ALGERIA

REF COTONOU 617,

1. BENIN'S FORMER MAJOR MICHEL ALLADAYE HAS BEEN IN ALGIERS MOST OF THIS WEEK. ON APRIL 16 HE REPORTEDLY SIGNED A SERIES OF AGREEMENTS WITH THE ALGERIAN GOVT. THESE INCLUDE ECONOMIC, COMMERCIAL AND CULTURAL EXCHANGE AGREEMENTS, ONE ESTABLISHING A GRAND ALGERIAN/BENINESE COMMISSION, ANOTHER SETTING UP A BENIN-ALGERIA MIXED CHAMBER OF COMMERCE, AND FINALLY SOME TYPE OF ACCORD FOR GROUP PURCHASING (WE ARE UNCLEAR ABOUT WHAT THIS ENTAILS).

2. ALLADAYE'S VISIT TO ALGERIA HAS NOT YET BEEN MADE PUBLIC IN BENIN. THIS IS HIS SECOND VISIT THERE THIS MONTH (REFTEL).

3. BENIN ALREADY HAS A JOINT SHIPPING COMPANY WITH ALGERIA AND AN AGREEMENT FOR THE PURCHASE OF PETROLEUM.

4. COMMENT: THOUGH BENIN HAS LONG BEEN IN THE ALGERIAN "CAMP" WE HAVE NO IDEA WHAT IS BEHIND THE CURRENT FLURRY OF ACTIVITY WITH THE ALGERIANS.

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CHESHES

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Message Attributes

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Margaret P. Grafeld
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